

# THE CHINA MAIL.

Established February, 1840.

Published every Evening, with which is incorporated The "Hongkong Evening Mail and Shipping List."

Vol. XXXII. No. 8927. 二八月正年六十七日八子一

HONGKONG, FRIDAY, JANUARY 26, 1876.

二三月初正年子丙

Price, \$24 per ANNUAL.

AGENTS FOR THE CHINA MAIL.

## NOTICES OF FIRMS.

### NOTICE.

I have this day authorized Mr. J. Y. V. SHAW to sign my name per procura-  
tion.

A. McG. HEATON.

Hongkong, January 1, 1876.

### NOTICE.

M. R. OTTO GRABE has been admitted a Partner in our Firm from 1st January, 1876.

E. MEYER & Co.

Tientian, January 1, 1876.

### NOTICE.

M. R. CARL KARLS has been duly authorized to sign our Firm per procura-  
tion from this date.

MELCHERS & Co.

Hongkong, January 1, 1876.

### NOTICE.

WE have established branches of our Firm at Haiphong and Hanoi. Mr. E. CONSTANT is authorized to sign by pro-  
curation in Tonquin.

LANDSTEIN & Co.

Hongkong, December 31, 1875.

### NOTICE.

HAVING resigned my situation in the Yuen Fat House, I have this day established myself as Merchant and Com-  
mission agent under the style of SZE GAN & CO.

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.

Hongkong FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

Hongkong, January 17, 1876.

### NOTICE.

THE Transfer BOOKS of the Com-  
pany will be CLOSED from the 3rd to the 17th February Next, both days in-  
cluded.

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.

General Managers.

Hongkong FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

Hongkong, January 17, 1876.

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JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.

General Managers.

Hongkong FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

Hongkong, January 17, 1876.

### NOTICE.

THE Partnership hitherto existing be-  
tween JOSIAH THORNE and JOHN ANDREW MAITLAND, under the style of  
Thorne Brothers & Co., is this day dissolved  
by mutual consent; either partner is au-  
thorized to sign the firm in liquidation.

THORNE BROTHERS & Co.

Dec. 31, 1876.

### NOTICE.

WITH reference to the above, the  
Business of the late Firm of Thorne  
Brothers & Co. will be conducted in future  
by the Undersigned, under the style of  
MAITLAND & Co., and Mr. JOHN GRAEME  
PURDON is authorized to sign the firm.

A. NOEL BLAKEMAN,

Secretary.

Hongkong, January 27, 1876.

### NOTICE.

REFFERRING to the foregoing advertise-  
ment, our Firm at Shanghai is temporarily closed from this date; its outstand-  
ing business will be attended to by Mr. JOHN G. PURDON, to whom all com-  
munications should be addressed.

Our Firm and business at Hongkong,  
Foochow, and Canton, will be carried on  
as heretofore, the interest and responsibility  
of Mr. JOHN G. PURDON remaining therein  
unchanged.

PURDON & Co.

China, Jan. 1, 1876.

### NOTICE.

MESSRS LANE, CRAWFORD & Co. have been instructed to sell by Public Auction, at

Stanley Barracks,

the 9th February, 1876, at 2 o'clock p.m.,

the 18th Instant, the remainder of their Winter Stock at Greatly Reduced

Prices, consisting of:—

Winter Costumes and Polonaises.

Ladies' Jackets and Mantillas.

Fancy Dress materials of all kinds.

Wool Plaids and Flannels.

Silks and Poplins.

Wool Shawls and Cloaks.

Trimmed and Untrimmed Hats

and Bonnets.

Fancy Wool Goods.

Lace and Linen Sets.

Scarves and Sashes.

Boys' Suits.

Children's Dresses.

&c., &c., &c.

### NOTICE.

THE Transfer BOOKS of this Company will be CLOSED on the First Fe-  
bruary next, after which date no further transfer of shares will be made.

ADOLF ANDRE,

F. D. SASSOON,

Liquidators.

Hongkong, January 10, 1876.

### NOTICE.

THE Transfer BOOKS of this Company will be CLOSED on the First Fe-  
bruary next, after which date no further transfer of shares will be made.

P. A. DA COSTA,

Secretary.

Hongkong, January 24, 1876.

### NOTICE.

THE Post of Secretary being about to  
become vacant, Applications for the  
same addressed to the Chairman will be  
received up to the 25th instant. Salary  
\$1,500 per annum.

Hongkong, January 18, 1876.

### NOTICE.

IN CONSEQUENCE OF THE REDU-  
CTION OF THE PRICE OF THE  
"SHANGHAI COURIER AND  
CHINA GAZETTE,"

IT WILL BE THE  
CHEAPEST DAILY PAPER IN CHINA

and a large

INCREASE OF CIRCULATION

MAY BE CONFIDENTLY ANTICIPATED, THE  
ADVANTAGE TO

A. D. V. R. T. S. H. S.

IS OBTAINABLE.

Hongkong, July 31, 1876.

### NOTICE.

THE CHINA MAIL AND SINGAPORE

NEWSPAPER

IS NOW READY.

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NEWSPAPER

## To-day's Advertisements.

**THEATRE ROYAL,**  
CITY HALL,  
HONGKONG.

THE LAST NIGHT BUT TWO OF  
DAVE CARSON'S MINSTRELS.

**To-morrow. Evening,**  
January 29th, 1876.

Second time in Hongkong of the most astonishing deception of the age.

**THE WONDERFUL CABINET, BOX,**  
AND HANDCUFF TRICKS.

Now creating so profound a sensation in London, will be produced precisely as performed.

By Messrs. MASKEYNE and COOKE and Dr. LYNN.

**EGYPTIAN HALL, PICCADILLY,**

Who are acknowledged to be the most celebrated.

**SPIRITUALISTICO THAUMATURGISTS OF THE AGE.**

These wonderful delusions have been mystifying London for the past two years, and are still unaccounted for.

"NOTHING SINCE THE TIME OF THE PHAROHS

Ever created such astonishment" (says the *London Times*.)

The effects produced are seemingly allied to the supernatural. A box is placed upon the stage, and anyone is at liberty to closely inspect the same. One of the performers is then put inside the box, which is next carefully locked by any gentleman present, the latter retaining possession of the key.

The public are further at liberty to cord the box, using any kind of knot they choose.

And lastly, these knots may be sealed.

The Cabinet is now brought to the front, and the box, with the performer inside, is placed in the receptacle for the same in the Cabinet. In a few minutes the public are permitted to open the Cabinet, take out the box, break the seals, untie the knots, and unfasten the lock, when, much to their astonishment, they will find the gentleman, who had been so carefully locked up, now free.

The Handcuff Trick is equally clever and astonishing. A member of the Police Force will be requested to bring a pair of his regulation handcuffs, and apply the same in the usual manner to Mr. CARSON's wrists. The latter will free himself from his fetters in less than a minute!

Mr. CAZIER, during his recent trip to London, visited Messrs. MASKEYNE and COOKE and Dr. LYNN'S Entertainments, and was so much impressed with the effects of the strange manifestation generally attributed to Spiritualism that he saw, that he determined to purchase the right of exhibition of the same marvellous feats in the East.

IN ADDITION TO THE USUAL PROGRAMME OF

DAVE CARSON'S MINSTRELS,

these illustrations of so-called Spiritualism will be exhibited for the second time in HONGKONG. The startling effects are far more marvellous than any of those that have been said to have been produced in EUROPE and AMERICA, and described as

"PSYCHIC FORCE."

PROGRAMME.

Part First.

Mrs. CARSON will preside at the Pianoforte.

Introductory Instrumental

Overture (Operatic)....

DAVE CARSON'S Minstrels.

Opening Chorus (Robert le

Diable).... COMPANY.

There's a letter in the candle.... M. G. H. HENRY.

The Girl of the Period.... DAVE CARSON.

(Original).... MR. J. C. TALBOT.

My Grandfather's Farm.... DAVE CARSON.

yard.... DAVE CARSON.

The little one that died.... M. G. H. HENRY.

Part First will conclude with an Original Burlesque, entitled

"THE SWISS WARBLES."

INTERVAL OF TEN MINUTES.

Part Second.

"On vous le voilà".... Mrs. DAVIS CARSON.

LA PRIMA DONNA D'AFRIQUE,

MR. J. C. TALBOT.

BANJOISTIC EGOCENTRICITIES,

MR. G. H. HENRY.

English Song—"Please give me a Penny,

Sir,"—WORDS BY DAVE CARSON.

MRS. CARSON.

Part Second will terminate with an Original Minstrel Morece, entitled

"THE SCHOOLMASTER ABRO'D,"

introducing the song and imitations of

"THE BLUE TALL FLY."

—BY D. A. C. A. R. S. O. N.

AN INTERVAL OF FIVE MINUTES.

The Evening's Entertainment will conclude with a Comic Sketch, entitled

THE TROUBLE-SOME SERVANT,

Mr. Frieze.... MR. G. H. HENRY.

Ballad.... MR. MADISON O'BRY.

Ephraim (the Troublesome Servant).... DAVE CARSON.

Introducing the wonderful Box Cabinet,

and Handcuff Illusions.

PRICES OF ADMISSION:

Dress Circle..... \$2.00.

Orchestra Stalls..... 2.00.

Back Seats..... 1.00.

Children under twelve years of age half price to Dress Circle

and Orchestra Stalls only.

Children in Arms..... 25.00.

Tickets may be had, and Seats secured at Messrs. LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.'s for Dress Circle and Orchestra Stalls, only and at the Doors of the Theatre on the Evening of Performance.

Doors open at 8 o'clock—Trouble begins at 9; Agony over 11.15.

Dave Carson's United Minstrel and Buff League Albany, containing the Bengalee Baboo and 24 other Popular Songs and Choruses, with Pianoforte Accompaniment, can be obtained at the Doors and of Messrs. LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.—Price 8.

Hongkong, January 28, 1876.

## To-day's Advertisements.

## STEAM TO YOKOHAMA.

The P. & O. S. N. Co.'s S. S.

"BOMBAY"

will leave for the above place shortly after the arrival of the Golconda, with the next English Mail.

A. MOLYER,

Superintendent,

Hongkong, January 28, 1876.

## STEAM TO SHANGHAI.

(Taking Cargo at through rates for

NAGASAKI & HILO).

The P. & O. S. N. Co.'s S. S.

"GOLCONDA"

will leave for the above place

about 24 hours after her arrival with the next English Mail.

A. MOLYER,

Superintendent,

Hongkong, January 28, 1876.

## S. S. GENOA.

FROM LONDON, PENANG AND SINGAPORE.

THE above Steamer having arrived, Con-

signment of Cargo by her are hereby

informed that their Goods are being landed

at their risk, by Messrs. NORTON & CO., into

their Godowns, whence and from the Wharf

or boats, delivery may be obtained.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Cargo remaining undelivered, after the

4th proximo will be subject to rent.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by

JARDINE, MATHESON & CO.,

Agents.

Hongkong, January 28, 1876.

## HONGKONG HOTEL COMPANY, (LIMITED).

## NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE Dividend of \$2.50 per share, de-

clared at the Ordinary Half-yearly

Meeting of Shareholders held to-day, will

be payable at the HONGKONG & SHANGHAI

BANKING CORPORATION on and after the

10th proximo. Shareholders are requested to

apply at the Secretary's Office for War-

rant.

By order of the Board of Directors,

L. Q. UIS HAUSCHILD,

Secretary.

Hongkong, January 28, 1876.

## THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

## NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE Seventh Ordinary MEETING of

Shareholders in the Company will be

held at the Company's Office, 35, Queen's

Road, Victoria, at 3 o'clock in the after-

noon of FRIDAY, the 18th February Next,

for the purpose of receiving a Statement of

Accounts, and the Report of the Directors,

for the Year ending 31st December, 1875.

The Transfer BOOKS of the Company

will be CLOSED from the 5th to the 18th

February, both days inclusive.

By Order,

JAS. B. COUGHTRIE,

Secretary.

Hongkong, January 28, 1876.

## SHIPPING.

## ARRIVALS.

Jan. 28, *Genoa*, British steamer, 1215,

Corrigall, London Nov. 28, Mails Dec. 8,

Port Said 13, Suez 15, Point de Galle 30,

Penang Jan. 11, Singapore 17, General

JARDINE, MATHESON & CO.

Jan. 28, *Zeta*, Austrian barque, 806, F.

Smerching, Cardiff July 30, Coal.

ORDER.

Jan. 28, *Lotus*, British steamer, 1407,

Gray—Saigon Jan. 22, Rice.—DAVID

SASSOON, SONS & CO.

## DEPARTURES.

Jan. 27, *Fentenay*, for Bangkok.

27, *Tarion*, for Tientsin.

27, *Yangtze*, for Canton.

28, *Wega*, for Whampoa.

28, *Rajasthanian*, for Bangkok.

## CLEARED.

Fano, for Tientsin.

Presto, for Tientsin.

Iris, for Singapore.

Fugue, for Canton.

Lunatice, for Keeling.

Pernambuco, for Saigon.

## PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.—Per *Genoa*, 8 Chinese.

## SHIPPING REPORTS.

The British steamer *Genoa* reports: in

the Mediterranean had strong gales from

long had made 63 runs (Mr. H. H. Taylor having contributed 23); while Amoy had scored 71 (Mr. W. Spinney having put together 19). While Hongkong\* with 4 wickets down, had made 50 runs towards the second innings.

The first performance given by Dave Carson, since his return from the North and Japan, came off last night before a fair audience. Mr. Dave's wit seems to be as lively and keen as ever, while the "jokes" in which he revelled were wholesome and in good taste—those regarding the civil marriage agitation and a worthy official being most heartily enjoyed. The second entertainment is announced for Saturday evening, when a well-filled house will doubtless reward the persistent and deserving efforts of Mr. Carson to amuse the public.

The interpretation question is evidently—so far as regards our Supreme Court—as yet unsettled. During the hearing of the cause célèbre which occupied the attention of the Court yesterday, the Chief Justice gravely remarked that there was no word for in Chinese; while the Court interpreter, by way of clearing up the matter, remarked with equal gravity that the affix *ke* (forming the possessive) implied in *mausnach* it was the accusative case! With such displays of philological knowledge, it is scarcely to be wondered at that inaccuracies are often complained of. As a matter of fact the interpretation is unsatisfactory, and will continue to be so until somebody who knows English well is appointed to do the duty.

Mr. Justice SNOWDEN sat to-day in the Summary Jurisdiction Court to hear a suit between Tang Ayat, a theatrical agent, and Tai Sam and another, alleged to be the owners of some theatrical troupe. The action was brought for damages for breach of a contract made in Canton whereby the defendants agreed to bring the Kew Foong Nin Troupe to Hongkong on the 12th October last to play at the Kowshing Theatre. Mr. Denny appeared for the plaintiff, and proved the payment of bargain money, boat-hire, rent of theatre, &c. Mr. Sharp appeared for the defendants and contended that the contract was not made with his clients but with the proprietor of the troupe, of which the defendants were only employees. In the end judgment was given for the defendants.

THE HONGKONG HOTEL COMPANY, LIMITED.

A meeting of the shareholders of this Company took place this afternoon (28th) at the office of the Company. There were present—Messrs André (in the chair), Burrows, Bellios, G. Sharp, C. P. Chater, A. E. Vaucher, H. Smith, Simons, Mestern, and Heuschmid (secretary).

The notice convening the meeting having been read by the secretary, the Chairman proposed that the report and statement be taken as read, the document having been in the hands of the shareholders for some time. In making this proposition, the Chairman said he had scarcely anything to add, except that the financial position of the Company was being more and more consolidated and improved from day to day. The debt of the Company had been reduced a good deal, and it was satisfactory that the loan could be got at a lower rate of interest. Four years ago the Company owed nearly \$100,000, since then it had been reduced to \$22,000, the amount at which it now stood, while the rate of interest was reduced. He considered the state of business satisfactory, and hoped that in course of time the Company would rid itself of the debt altogether.

Mr. Sharp asked if the Company did not pay interest at the rate of 6 per cent.

The Chairman replied that was the rate, but it had been reduced to 6 per cent.

The meeting then proceeded to re-elect Messrs Bellios and Chater as directors. The motion, which was proposed by the Chairman and second by Mr. Vaucher, was unanimously carried.

The Chairman then announced the meeting as having terminated. The dividend warrants would be ready by the 10th prox.

Mr. Vaucher then proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman, and the meeting

A THOUSAND Chinese actors, consisting of no less than 200 persons, has lately arrived at Moulineau, where they propose to give a series of performances in the Exchange Hall.—*Indian paper*.

THE *Scots Observer* thus comments on the Grosvenor mission:—"As the despatch of the Grosvenor mission was one of the considerations offered to Mr. Wade to preserve peace, it necessarily follows that if any harm comes to it, it was most shame. We cannot go back. Every consideration will urge us forward, and we are much afraid that the prophecy we made months ago that we shall be engaged in another Chinese war in the spring will come true. This will add to the responsibility of the Straits Government, for if we wait on another

crusade against China, we shall have, as the Calcutta Statesman puts it, 'a blaze of war spreading from the Irrawaddy along the whole line of the Peninsula to Singapore.' And the Government of the Straits is in a muddle such as it never was before and should not be in now."

THE PRESS publishes the following telegram:

"London, 24th January.—Increase in the next Army Estimates is announced."

"Calcutta, 26th January.—The Prince of Wales met with a gorgeous reception at Cashmere. There was a splendid pageant; the body-guards clad in chain mail recalled the Crusades period. The Prince witnessed the fireworks from places specially erected. The landscape was lit up for miles round."

"London, 26th January.—Troops will be sent through Burma to meet the Mon."

"It is stated that Bremer, Mornorand (Montmorand; Ed. C.M.) is to be the French Minister in China."

Major-General Margary is dead.

A sixpenny postage between England and India has been decided on."

There has been an accident on the Great Northern Railway. Thirteen persons killed and 21 injured.

SURVEYOR has, says the *Indian Statesman*, often been exasperated at the very dark complexion of the Goanese descendants of the Portuguese settlers in the country. A passage in the "Land of the Tamangs" gives the following amusing solution of the matter:—In 1670 Albuquerque took Goa and made it the seat of the Government and Missionary enterprise. Albuquerque, however, had contained fight to carry on against the Mahomedans, and fore saw that for generations to come it would take more soldiers than Portugal would be able to supply, and he, therefore, resolved to draw his recruits from India.

He therefore married his soldiers to native girls—and the children of these marriages were educated in the military schools. Neither the soldiers, the girls, nor their parents regarded these marriages with any degree of liking, but Albuquerque knew how to make them palatable. He killed or banished the Mahomedans, confiscated their possessions, and gave them as dowries to these marriages. This had the desired effect; in a short time hundreds and thousands of such marriages were celebrated, and as the girls were compelled to embrace Christianity before the marriage was celebrated or the dowries bestowed, Goa was soon filled with Christians. They were Christians, however, in name only, and form, and were allowed to follow heathenish forms as much as possible."

#### Police Intelligence.

(Before James Russell, Esq.)

28th January, 1876.

NEW YEAR FESTIVITIES.

A youngster 12 years of age was charged with parading through the streets in company with other boys with an imitation Dragon. The other boys were beating drums and gongs. The defendant said he was only the carrier of the drum. Discharged with a caution.

GAMBLING.

Two Chinese were brought up for gambling at Bowrington. The first was proved to be the manager and was sent to one month's hard labour. The second, who was simply a player, was sent to seven days' hard labour.

Several other cases of street gambling came under the cognizance of the magistrate, and the offenders were sent to seven days' hard labour each.

ALLEGED THEFT.

Frederick Wellington, late chief mate of the German brig *Tartar*, was charged by Capt. Hermann Kraemer, master of the said vessel, with stealing some sheets of copper. The captain preferred the charge on the information of the second mate, who had a quarrel with the defendant. He only informed against him because he had a quarrel with him. The alleged theft was said to have taken place some weeks ago while the ship was at Vladivostock. It also turned out that the captain had a row with the defendant, hence the charge. Under the circumstances the defendant was discharged without being called upon to state his defence.

FIRE CRACKERS.

About thirty Chinese were brought up for firing crackers in the Street, in violation of the Ordinance in such case made and provided. They were fined \$1 each, and admonished.

HOUSE-BREAKING.

Wong Ayip was again brought up for attempting to break into Mr. Sampson's house. The defendant was committed for trial at the Supreme Court.

DISEASED PIGS.

Two Chings were charged by Inspector McKinney with having in their possession a pig which was pronounced by the Colonial Surgeon to be bad with measles. The first tried to exculpate himself by implicating the second; by the assertion that the pork in C. U. was sent to him to be roasted by his friend on the left. The second in turn tried to implicate the slaughter-house leasee by stating that the pig was slaughtered there. The latter, however, succeeded in improving any connection with the affix and was consequently discharged. The other defendant was respectively fined \$25 and \$60, or two and four months' hard labour. The fines were paid.

China.

SHANGHAI.

(Courtesy of *Gazette*.)

On Saturday last a trial was made of the engines of the little iron-clad now being finished at the Kiangnan Arsenal, and it proved a great success. On the previous Saturday the fires were lighted, but as the copper piping was found very defective the steam was never allowed to rise to a pressure sufficient to try the engine, which are inverted diagonal compound, of forty horse-power nominal. Each propeller is driven by a separate engine to admit of the vessel being turned rapidly. Much has been said, and many speculations have been indulged in at the expense of the Chinese

officials, and the fighting qualities of the little gun-boat. The Mandarins in building a vessel of this class may have shown more wisdom than foreigners give them credit for, and attended to the interests of their country and the requirements of its sea service in doing so. The vessel is not intended to proceed to Europe to cope with European navies in their own waters; but to serve the Chinese in the shallow rivers and creeks which abound here, and where vessels carrying seven-inch guns could not follow. It can hardly be thought that the Chinese would be foolhardy enough to take the vessel out to sea to encounter the *Audacious*; but lying close under the bank of the river it might be found difficult to hit her. The gun which she carries sends a shot with a total energy of 2,073 tons, or 218 tons greater than that attributed to the seven-inch Woolwich gun, and could pierce at 3,000 yards.

In building a vessel of this class the Chinese are only following the footstep of Western nations. The Austrian Government has two such vessels with 12 inch plating at the water line and 2 inches at the battery, and the Swedish Government has ten such vessels with 1½ inch at the water line and 2 inches at the battery; whereas this vessel has 2 inches plating at the water line and 2½ inches at the battery. The Chinese were not prepared for ironship building, and have in fact been getting the necessary plant ready and building the vessel at the same time. It is now one year and eight months since the ironclad was first commenced, and many may think that a long time for building so small a vessel, which no doubt, it is, occupied with the time taken to build one in England; but it has been begun and nearly finished since the launch of the last frigate at the Arsenal, which has been over two years in the water. It is thought that if the Chinese do not go to war until she is finished there will be peace in the East for some considerable time. In fact it takes as many years to make a Chinese frigate's engines as it would months to make those of an English ship.

The Chinese in preferring iron ships to wooden ones, and small gun-boats like this to frigates which are scarcely able to cross the Woosung Bar, show their wisdom. It is believed that the Chinese intend building an armoured of a much larger size as soon as the necessary plant has been got ready. We may mention, in conclusion, that the ironclad above referred to is not called the *Terror of Western Nations* as was stated the other day.

Not long ago, there lived a wealthy mandarin who had two wives. The lady who held the superior rank was blessed with a singularly unattractive daughter; she was short, deeply pitted with the small-pox, and her features outrageously distorted. Everything that money could buy, however, was hers; and she did her best to counteract her deformity with the costliest silks and jewels obtainable. The daughter of the number two wife was proportionately pretty; and the two girls occupied different parlours in a large and handsome garden. Now it fell out one day, when they were both about sixteen years of age, that a young student was amusing himself with the many recreations of kite flying, just outside the garden wall; when as luck would have it, the string broke and the kite entangled over, quite close to the room occupied by the prettier of the two girls. This adventurous young person hopped smilily out into the garden, picked it up, and found that upon it was portrayed the face of a handsome youth, who, to her imagination, must needs be the owner of the kite; and inspired by the romance of the situation, she took up a pencil, wrote hasty some love verses upon it, and flung it over the wall again. But the entire scene had been watched by the ugly sister, and, burning with jealousy, she determined to turn it to her own advantage. Accordingly she sent her Abigail to find the owner of the kite, to represent her as having written the verses, and to arrange an interview in the garden—a most improper proceeding, of course, and one which was only excusable from the extreme youth of the plain though sprightly lady herself. The maid soon put the plan into execution, and the destined student found himself at the appointed time outside his charmer's window. When however he found that he was expected to walk up, he heartily wished himself out of the scrape; but there was no help for it. He was shown into the lady's boudoir, and found the lady herself, hiding behind the curtains. A pretty pair of lovers, truly! and the lamp was burning so low he could hardly see where he was. The coy creature, confessing that she had written the verses, and to arrange an interview in the garden—a most improper proceeding, of course, and one which was only excusable from the extreme youth of the plain though sprightly lady herself. The maid soon put the plan into execution, and the destined student found himself at the appointed time outside his charmer's window. When however he found that he was expected to walk up, he heartily wished himself out of the scrape; but there was no help for it. He was shown into the lady's boudoir, and found that they were besieged by the authorities, they armed themselves with bamboo and made a raid upon the people, looting wherever they could get a chance and doing a deal of mischief; and we hear that the disturbance is even now far from being at an end. The villagers are said to be in a state of terror for miles round, and to wish their disagreeable visitors had gone for succour somewhere else.

A little knowledge may be a dangerous thing, but it is far oftener a very comical thing. A native friend who is more or less familiar with the Old Testament informs us that in a certain district north of the Yellow River the inhabitants have been suffering almost as great distress and scarcity as prevailed in the days of Joseph, the Protestant Vicar of Egypt! and that the country near Nanking has been visited by a formidable invasion of the starving people. The villagers gave them, however, but a cold reception and they were compelled to encamp outside the city walls and shiver miserably in the raw November. When the mandarin heard of this he expostulated with the inhabitants of the neighbourhood, telling them it was their duty rather to feed and clothe the unfortunate men and women who had come to them for protection and condoned by "enjoining" them to do no harm in relieving their distress. But when the interlopers heard of this, they armed themselves with bamboo and made a raid upon the people, looting wherever they could get a chance and doing a deal of mischief; and we hear that the disturbance is even now far from being at an end. The villagers are said to be in a state of terror for miles round, and to wish their disagreeable visitors had gone for succour somewhere else.

We fancy that few people have any idea of the varied nature of the difficulties which missionaries encounter in their attempts to spread Christianity among the Chinese. Not only are they the doctrines of the faith misrepresented, and the preachers of it often much maligned, but imaginary terrors connected with the "Western world" are brought to bear upon the minds of would-be converts. The Chinese are as well known, first, because in the powers of darkness and their influence over the actions of living persons; and this superstitious is used as a means whereby to scare away those who may be supposed to have any leanings towards the Western faith. Native mediums are sometimes in the habit of representing the "ghosts" of deceased persons as having come to obtain some-thing from the earth, namely to obtain some-thing to the Ancestral Hall or Heaven either by the front door or the back. Sternly excluded from the joys of the Celestial Paradise, they therefore come back to entreat their friends to intercede for them with the emperors of Christianity, and to make intercession for them with their mother-in-law. Then she takes her daughter by the hand and led her into the young man's room; who, lifting his eyes, beheld before him one of the most charming maidens he

had ever seen. Mutual explanations followed, and the night which had begun so tempestuously ended in happiness and repose. But meanwhile a far worse scene was being enacted in the other bridal chamber. The plain sister had been under the impression that her old dame was to fall to her share, and mightily disgusted was she when her real husband stood revealed. "Good gracious me!" she exclaimed, "what or whatever may be the equivalent for that in Chinese—Alayah!—perhaps 'Why, how old you have got since we met!—pray where did you get those nasty moles from!'" "Oh indeed indeed," replied the husband; "so you have already had a lover, have you? Though you're mistaken in thinking I was the happy man." The lady uttered a shriek of despair at this terrible revelation, and was altogether disgusted by the turn affairs had taken; that she resorted to the not very uncommon expedient of hanging herself upon the spot.

Chinese doctors, as we have frequently remarked, are for many reasons a very unenviable race of men. If they happen to fall in their endeavours to cure a patient with perhaps incurable disease, they run a risk of incurring serious punishment, which varies in severity according to the rank of the sick person; and they are continually being made the victims of the instruments of some untoward hoax. In the neighbourhood of Peking, just outside the walls, there lived some time ago a worthy follower of—whether may be the Chinese counterpart of Escolapius; and he enjoyed a widespread reputation for ability. Indeed so great was his fame that he found it advisable to move into the City itself, where he established himself in a large house, and speedily acquired a handsome practice. One day two individuals, who appear to have followed the ancient calling of shoplifters, went to a large silk-mill, and asked to be shown some patterns of silk and satin. There was to be a grand wedding, they said, at the house of a wealthy mandarin; and the ladies were anxious to have the most splendid dresses, preferable would the shop-keepers oblige them by bringing out some samples of his most costly fabrics, and accompanying them to the bride's house? The unfortunate master was delighted, and speedily got together some rolls of satin worth in all a couple of hundred taels. They then mounted their carts, and proceeded to the house of the physician, the *tu-tung* in which he lived being quite cluttered up with the various conveyances of his wealthy patient. "Look," said one of the rascals, "how many rich folk are paying visits of congratulation! These people will give you a handsome price for your goods, you may be sure." Now it was a custom of the worthy doctor to see the general body of his patients in an outer room; but those who wished for a more private and confidential interview could, by paying an extra fee, be received in the inner apartments. So these two scamps told their victim to sit down in the porchway while they went in and took the satins for the approval of the ladies; and, leaving him amid a crowd of the poor patients, paid their fee and passed into the private consultation-rooms. The doctor listened to their imaginary symptoms, and gave them a prescription; whereupon they gravely thanked him, and took their leave by a side door especially reserved for the convenience of the "swells." Meanwhile the luckless master thought the young lady was a long time making up her mind, and at length requested the *kan-mien-teh* to go and see if she was clearly ready. That individual stared, and evidently thought the victim's disease was mental rather than physical; but when the *denouement* came, and the victim found that he was in a doctor's house, that there were no ladies in the case, and nobody was in pressing need of any silk, he rushed madly to look after his cart. Of course it had disappeared; so, curiously enough, had his two friends; and he has never yet had the satisfaction of asking them what became of his two hundred taels' worth of precious silk.

A little knowledge may be a dangerous thing, but it is far oftener a very comical thing. A native friend who is more or less familiar with the Old Testament informs us that in a certain district north of the Yellow River the inhabitants have been suffering almost as great distress and scarcity as prevailed in the days of Joseph, the Protestant Vicar of Egypt! and that the country near Nanking has been visited by a formidable invasion of the starving people. The villagers gave them, however, but a cold reception and they were compelled to encamp outside the city walls and shiver miserably in the raw November. When the mandarin heard of this he expostulated with the inhabitants of the neighbourhood, telling them it was their duty rather to feed and clothe the unfortunate men and women who had come to them for protection and condoned by "enjoining" them to do no harm in relieving their distress. But when the interlopers heard of this, they armed themselves with bamboo and made a raid upon the people, looting wherever they could get a chance and doing a deal of mischief; and we hear that the disturbance is even now far from being at an end. The villagers are said to be in a state of terror for miles round, and to wish their disagreeable visitors had gone for succour somewhere else.

It is a well-known fact that the Chinese are very superstitious, and their customs are sometimes very curious. They have a great aversion to the number 13, and to the letter "S." They also have a strong aversion to the number 4, and to the letter "W." They also have a strong aversion to the number 4, and to the letter "W." They also have a strong aversion to the number 4, and to the letter "W."

The *Midday Sentinel* and *Woman* gives a glowing description of the Pedestrian Ceremonies recently performed at Mid-day on the occasion of the presentation

of the Samuel Russell Free Library to the citizens. We read that a select but large audience was gathered in the Lecture-room, and in the course of the speech which were delivered a very interesting account was given by one of the speakers of the commercial career of the generous donor, who was also the founder of the house of Russell & Co., in China. The education of this gentleman appears to have been somewhat limited, as he lived in a time "when men were satisfied to give the brief but sound and thorough schooling of the day, and then expected 'them' to enter upon their life's work." Mr. Russell started in the employ of Carrington and Hoppin, in whose interest he came out to China. At the end of his agreement he acceded to the pressing entreaties of Howqua, "the great head of the Chinese Hong" and started upon his own account, thereby becoming the founder of the house since so famous in the East, and which still clings to the name under which he won such well- deserved prestige, the house of Russell & Company. The speaker went on to say that there is probably no seat of commerce in the world where mercantile honour and strict integrity, frankness of dealing and generosity, manly enterprise are more valued and better understood than they have been on these foreign shores; that Christian piety may equal though it cannot outdo, the uprightness of those heathen (Chinese); and that the friendship which existed between Mr. Russell and Howqua is a sufficient eulogy of the mercantile career of the former gentleman. The theory is a novel one.

NINGBO. (Courier Correspondent.)

13th January, 1876.

Last evening a lecture was given in the Club Reading Room, by that indefatigable advocate of total abstinence, Mr. Wheatley. The title of the lecture was "A Shot at the Decanter." Mr. Wheatley discussed on the customs of the day in regard to drink. He read the opinions of a number of eminent doctors, who were not pledged abstainers and in each case the verdict was not in favour of alcohol either as a food or as a medicine. A vote of thanks was called for by the Chairman, Mr. Dumaresq, and heartily responded to, which was accented after the Chairman had intimated that if any one had anything to say



Mails.

STEAM FOR  
Singapore, Penang, Point de Galle,  
Aden, Suez, Malta, Brindisi,  
Ancona, Venice, Medi-  
terranean Ports, Southampton  
and London;

Also—

Bombay, Madras and Calcutta.

THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM  
NAVIGATION COMPANY'S Steamship  
CYLON, Captain ORMAN, with Her  
Majesty's Movts., Passengers, Specie, and  
Cargo will leave this for the above places  
on THURSDAY, the 3rd February, at  
Noon.

CARGO will be received on board until  
Note: SPECIE and PAROLES at the  
Office until 2 p.m. on the 2nd Inst.

For particulars regarding Freight and  
Passage, apply at the P. & O. S. N. Co.'s  
Office, Hongkong.

CONTENTS AND VALUE OF PACKAGES  
ARE REQUIRED.

A written declaration of the Contents and  
Value of the Packages for the Overland Route  
is required by the Egyptian Government, and  
must be delivered by the Shippers to the Company's Agents with the Bills of Lading, or  
with Parcels; and the Company do not hold  
themselves responsible for any detention or  
prejudice which may happen from incorrect  
or non-stick declaration.

Shippers are particularly requested to note  
the terms and conditions of the Company's  
Black Bills of Lading.

THE P. & O. S. N. Co. reserve the  
option of forwarding all Goods ship-  
ped by their Steamers for Europe through  
Egypt, either by Rail, or by Canal in their  
own Steamers, or in vessels employed for  
the purpose.

A. McIVER, Superintendent.

P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Office,  
Hongkong, January 20, 1876. fob

Occidental & Oriental Steam-  
ship Company.

TAKING THROUGH CARGO AND  
PASSENGERS FOR THE UNITED  
STATES AND EUROPE,  
IN CONNECTION WITH THE  
CENTRAL  
and

UNION PACIFIC AND CONNECTING  
RAILROAD COMPANIES  
AND

ATLANTIC STEAMERS.

THE S. S. "GAELO" will be de-  
patched for San Francisco, via Yokohama, on THURSDAY, the 3rd February, 1876, at 3 p.m., taking Cargo and Passengers  
for Japan, the United States and Europe.  
Connection is made at Yokohama, with  
Steamers from Shanghai, with  
Freight will be received on Board until  
4 p.m. of 2nd proximo. Parcel Packages  
will be received at the Office until 5 p.m.  
same day; all Parcel Packages should be  
marked to address in full; value of same  
is required.

Return Passage Tickets available for 6  
months are issued at a reduction of 20 per  
cent on regular rates.

For further information as to Freight  
or Passage, apply to the Agency of the  
Company, Praya West.

G. B. EMORY, Acting Agent.

Hongkong, January 17, 1876. fob

U. S. MAIL LINE.

PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP  
COMPANY.

THROUGH TO NEW YORK, VIA  
OVERLAND RAILWAYS, AND TOUCHING  
AT YOKOHAMA, AND SAN FRANCISCO.

THE S. S. "GREAT REPUBLIC" will  
leave Hongkong for San Francisco,  
via Yokohama, on TUESDAY, the 15th  
February, 1876, at 3 p.m., taking Passengers,  
and Freight, for Japan, the United States,  
and Europe.

Through Passenger Tickets and Bills  
of Lading are issued for transportation to  
Yokohama and other Japan Ports, to San  
Francisco, to ports in Mexico, Central and  
South America, and to New York, and  
Europe via OVERLAND RAILWAYS.

A Steamer of the Mitaishi S. S. Com-  
pany will leave Shanghai, via the Inland Sea  
Ports, about same date, and make close  
connection at Yokohama.

At New York, Passengers have selection  
of various lines of Steamers to England,  
France and Germany.

Freight will be received on board until  
4 p.m. 14th instant. Parcel Packages  
will be received at the office until 5 p.m.  
same day; all Parcel Packages should be  
marked to address in full; value of same  
is required.

For further information as to Passage  
and Freight, apply to the Agency of the  
Company, Praya West.

G. B. EMORY, Acting Agent.

Hongkong, January 17, 1876. fob

TRANSLATION.

DOCUMENTS Translated from ENGLISH  
into CHINESE and GERMAN.  
Or from GERMAN, CHINESE,  
FRENCH, SPANISH,  
ITALIAN or PORTUGUESE,  
into ENGLISH, by competent hands.

Special attention paid to PROTECH,  
BIRMINGHAM, and other Documents  
containing NAUTICAL, ENGINEERING, or  
other TECHNICAL TOPICS.

Terms for European Languages—

Pal. Copy, per legal folio, ... \$1.00  
Extra copies, ... 0.25  
Special agreements made for Chinese  
translations or language documents in other  
languages.

Address: "TRANSLATION."

Care of China Mail Office,  
Hongkong, January 6, 1876.

## Insurances.

QUEEN FIRE INSURANCE  
COMPANY.

THE Undersigned are prepared to grant  
Policies against Fire to the extent of  
\$45,000 on Buildings, or on Goods stored  
therein, at current local rates, subject to a  
Discount of 20% on the Premium.

EDWARD NORTON &amp; Co.

Hongkong, January 1, 1876.

YANGTSZE INSURANCE ASSOCIA-  
TION OF SHANGHAI.

CAPITAL AND SURPLUS, \$600,000 TALES.

POLICIES granted on Marine Risks to

all parts of the world at current rates.  
This Association will, until further no-  
tice, provide out of the earnings, first for  
an Interest, Dividend of 15% to Share-  
holders on Capital, and thereafter distri-  
buted among Policy holders, annually, in  
cash. All the Profits of the Underwriting  
Business goes to amount of premium  
contributed.

RUSSELL &amp; Co.

Agents.

Hongkong, July 9, 1876.

CONTENTS AND VALUE OF PACKAGES

ARE REQUIRED.

A written declaration of the Contents and  
Value of the Packages for the Overland Route  
is required by the Egyptian Government, and  
must be delivered by the Shippers to the Company's Agents with the Bills of Lading, or  
with Parcels; and the Company do not hold  
themselves responsible for any detention or  
prejudice which may happen from incorrect  
or non-stick declaration.

Shippers are particularly requested to note  
the terms and conditions of the Company's  
Black Bills of Lading.

THE P. & O. S. N. Co. reserve the  
option of forwarding all Goods ship-  
ped by their Steamers for Europe through  
Egypt, either by Rail, or by Canal in their  
own Steamers, or in vessels employed for  
the purpose.

A. McIVER, Superintendent.

P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Office,  
Hongkong, January 20, 1876. fob

LANCASHIRE INSURANCE  
COMPANY.

(FIRE AND LIFE)

CAPITAL, Two Millions TALES.

THE Undersigned are prepared to grant

Policies against the Risks of FIRE on  
Buildings or on Goods stored therein, or  
on Coal in Mines, or on Goods on Board  
Vessels and on Hulls of Vessels in Har-  
bour, at the usual Tariffs and Conditions.

Proposals for Life Assurances will be re-  
ceived, and transmitted to the Directors  
for their decision.

If required, protection will be granted on  
first class Lives up to £1000 on a single  
Life.

For Rates of Premiums, terms of pro-  
posals of any other information, apply to

ARNHOLD, KARBERG &amp; Co.

Agents Hongkong &amp; Canton.

Hongkong, January 4, 1876.

THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE  
COMPANY, LIMITED.

HEAD OFFICE—HONGKONG.

INCORPORATED by Royal Charter and  
Special Act of Parliament.

ESTABLISHED 1860.

CAPITAL, £20,000,000.

THE Undersigned Agents at Hongkong

for the above Company, are prepared to grant  
Policies against FIRE, to the extent of £10,000 on any Building, or  
on Merchandise in the same, at the  
usual Rates, subject to a discount of 20  
per cent.

GILMAN &amp; Co.,

Agents.

Hongkong, July 6, 1876.

ROYAL INSURANCE COMPANY.

THE Undersigned having been appoint-  
ed Agents for the above Company,

are prepared to grant Insurances at our  
usual rates.

HOLLIDAY, WISE &amp; Co.

Agents, Royal Insurance Company.

Hongkong, October 27, 1874.

INTIMATIONS.

WANTED.

A SITUATION, by a young German, as

Servant Maid, to accompany a Lady or

Family en route to Europe.

Terms: Free Passage Home.

Address: "Home Passage," care of the

China Mail Office, Hongkong, January 3, 1876. fob

NOTICE.

THE LONDON ASSURANCE.

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER

of

His Majesty King George The First.

A. D. 1720.

THE Undersigned having been appointed

Agents for the above Corporation are  
prepared to grant Insurances as follows:

Marine Department.

Policies at current rates payable either  
here, in London or at the principal Ports  
of India, China and Australia.

Fire Department.

Policies issued for long or short periods at  
current rates. A discount of 20% allowed.

Life Department.

Policies issued for sums not exceeding  
£2,000 on reasonable terms.

HOLLIDAY, WISE &amp; Co.

Hongkong, July 26, 1872.

CHINESE INSURANCE COMPANY.  
(LIMITED.)

NOTICE.

POLICIES granted at current rates on

Marine Risks to all parts of the World.

In accordance with the Company's Articles  
of Association, Two Thirds of the Profits

are distributed annually to Contributors,

whether Shareholders or not, in proportion  
to the net amount of Premiums contributed  
by each, the remaining third being carried  
to Reserve Fund.

OLYPHANT &amp; Co.,

General Agents.

Hongkong, April 17, 1873.

YANGTSZE INSURANCE ASSOCIA-  
TION OF SHANGHAI.

NOTICE.

THE Undersigned Agents are in receipt

of instructions from the Board of

Directors authorizing them to issue Policies

to the extent of \$10,000 on any one fire

class risk, or to the extent of £15,000 on

adjacent risks at current rates.

A Discount of 20% allowed.

HOLLIDAY, WISE & Co.

Hongkong, January 8, 1874.

TRANSLATION.

DOCUMENTS Translated from ENGLISH

into CHINESE and GERMAN.

Or from GERMAN, CHINESE,

FRENCH, SPANISH,

ITALIAN or PORTUGUESE,

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languages.

Address: "TRANSLATION."

Care of China Mail Office,  
Hongkong, January 6, 1874.

## Insurances.

THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN INSUR-  
ANCE COMPANY, ADELAIDE.

CAPITAL, £1,000,000.